

## Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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INFO USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: DIALOGUE WITH OPPOSITION PARTIES CONTINUES

1. SUMMARY. GOA-OPPOSITION PARTY DIALOGUE SEEMS TO HAVE REACHED NEW LEVEL OF CORDIALITY. IN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS ON APR 5, PERON SAID: A) HE HAD NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO VISIT EUROPE AND B) THAT AN ALL-OUT EFFORT AGAINST TERRORISTS WILL BE LAUNCHED IN NEXT FEW DAYS. END SUMMARY

2. PERON'S DIALOGUE WITH OPPOSITION PARTIES REACHED A NEW LEVEL OF CONVIVIALITY ON APR 5 WHEN THE PRESIDENT GAVE AN ASADO (THE ARGENTINE EQUIVALENT OF A BARBEQUE) FOR CABINET MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SAME EIGHT PARTIES WITH WHOM HE HAD MET ON MAR 21 (SEE BA 2108). PERON INVITED THE LATTER TO OFFER THEIR OWN OPINIONS AND TO QUESTION HIM AND HIS MINISTERS ON ANY SUBJECT OR POLICY THEY WISHED. THIS WENT BEYOND THE GUIDELINES INDICATED BACK ON 13 NOV 73 (SEE BA 8318). AT THAT POINT, PERON TOLD OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS THAT SOLANO LIMA WOULD ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE TO HEAR THEIR VIEWS AND COMPLAINTS. NOW HE IS PUTTING ENTIRE  
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CABINET AT THEIR DISPOSAL (AND THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT

THESE MEETINGS WILL BECOME REGULARLY SCHEDULED AFFAIRS).

3. AS REPORTED BY THE PRESS, THERE WERE SEVERAL INTERESTING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. PERON, FOR EXAMPLE, AGAIN INDICATED HE HAS NO IMMEDIATE PLANS FOR A TRIP TO EUROPE (THERE ARE INDICATIONS, HOWEVER, THAT HE AND HIS WIFE MAY BE LEAVING SHORTLY FOR A VACATION NEAR BARILOCHE).

4. INTERESTINGLY, IT WAS RODOLFO GHIOLDI (COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER) WHO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE RISING CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE IN ARGENTINA AND ASKED THE PRESIDENT WHAT HE INTENDED TO DO ABOUT IT. PERON REPLIED THAT FEDERAL POLICE WILL SHORTLY BE GIVEN ORDERS TO UNDERTAKE A VAST PLAN TO STAMP OUT TERRORISM. REPORTEDLY, AT A CABINET MEETING THE NEXT DAY, APR 6, PERON CALLED FOR THE UTILIZATION OF THE GENDARMERIE, THE INTELLIGENCE UNITS OF THE VARIOUS ARMED SERVICES AND THE PREFECTURA IN THE COMING CAMPAIGN. (COMMENT. THE NATION HAS HEARD PROMISES OF ALL-OUT CAMPAIGNS AGAINST TERRORISM BEFORE AND SEEN LITTLE RESULTS. THERE ARE INDICATIONS, HOWEVER, THAT THIS TIME PERON MEANS BUSINESS. IF EVEN INTELLIGENCE UNITS OF THE ARMED FORCES ARE FACTORED INTO THE MENTIONED PLAN, THAT IN ITSELF WILL INDICATE A NEW SERIOUSNESS OF INTENTION). PERON EMPHASIZED THAT ALL LEGAL RPT LEGAL MEANS WOULD BE USED TO RID COUNTRY OF TERRORIST PROBLEM.

5. ECON MINISTER GELBARD WAS ASKED WHY US SUBSIDIARIES HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE TO SELL CARS TO CUBA (IN A CONTEXT WHICH IMPLIED A GOVERNMENT SELL-OUT OF THE NATIONAL INTERESTS IF THE COMPANIES ARE LET OFF THE HOOK). GELBARD SIDE-STEPPED BY SAYING CUBA HAD WANTED TO BUY CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT BEFORE CARS, BUT THAT THE CARS WOULD CERTAINLY BE SOLD AND SOLD SOON.

6. PERON ASSURED HIS GUESTS THAT THERE WILL BE A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS EVEN BEFORE THE FORMAL PROCESS BEGINS TO REFORM THE CONSTITUTION. EARLIER, HE HAD APPOINTED A COMMISSION HEADED BY JUSTICE MINISTER BENITEZ TO STUDY CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

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## Message Attributes

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